

REMARKS

Claims 1-27, 29 and 31 are still pending in the patent application.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-31 are rejected as being obvious based on a proposed combination of Colonna et al., in view of Kim, and further in view of Cornett et al. (United States Patent No. 5,053,758), a newly cited reference. In effect, Cornett et al. is being cited in place of Tyneski et al., which is now withdrawn.

Claim 1 is amended to recite an electronics device featuring a touch sensitive area including a keyboard with preprinted key signs, the function of the movable housing element changing based on the position thereof in relation to the main body, in such a way that, when the moveable housing element is in a closed position in relation to the main body, the moveable housing element operating in a keyboard mode with the force position signal containing information about the preprinted key signs contacted by the user.

Claim 4 is similarly amended.

To the extent that the obviousness rejection might be applied to claim 1 or 4, as amended, it is respectfully traversed for the following reasons:

The reasons why Colonna et al. and Kim do not teach or suggest the claimed invention are set forth on the record and not repeated herein. In addition thereto, it is respectfully

submitted that neither Colonna et al. nor Kim teach or suggest an electronics or communications device featuring a touch sensitive area or slide having a keyboard with preprinted key signs, where the function of the touch sensitive slide changing based on the position thereof in relation to the housing or main body, in such a way that, when the moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide is in a closed position in relation to the housing or main body, the moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide operating in a keyboard mode with the force position or touch sensitive slide signal containing information about the preprinted key signs contacted by the user, as claimed herein.

The reasoning in the Office Action recognizes that Colonna et al. and Kim do not teach or suggest the a moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide having touch sensitive circuitry as this term is known and used in the art, and is pointing to Cornett et al. to make up for this deficiency. In operation, and as claimed, the touch sensitive circuitry responds to a contact force by a user, for providing a force position or touch sensitive slide signal indicative of the position of the contact force in relation to at least one dimension of the moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide, as recited in claims 1 or 4.

However, similar to Colonna et al., Kim and Tyneski et al., Cornett et al. does not even remotely suggest this claimed feature. For example, Cornett et al. merely discloses a CRT 10

having a touch screen 11 for cooperating with a main processor 13 via a touchscreen controller 14 and a CRT controller 16. The CRT 10 is clearly not movably mounted and does not form part of a two-part electronics device as claimed. Cornett et al. also does not suggest using its touch screen 11 in a touch sensitive slide that is movably mounted on a main body containing communication circuit, as claimed herein. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that Cornett et al. when view as a whole effectively has nothing to do with the overall claimed invention. In contrast thereto, Cornett et al. merely discloses a device where a touch screen overlay is put in front of a CRT display. The reasoning in paragraph 2 of the Office Action specifically cites column 2, lines 45-51. However, it is respectfully submitted that, column 2, lines 45-51, merely describes a use case where the operator touches the touch sensitive overlay and the position of the touch is converted to X, Y coordinates, which is how one would expect touch screens to work, and thus is very well known in the art.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that, if one of ordinary skill in the art were to take all three cited reference and build a so-called device, the result at best would be a device with two housing elements which move slidably and which contains a sensor to indicate the position of the elements based on the proposed combination of Colonna and Kim. This device would contain a CRT display (which by the way weighs about 20 kg)

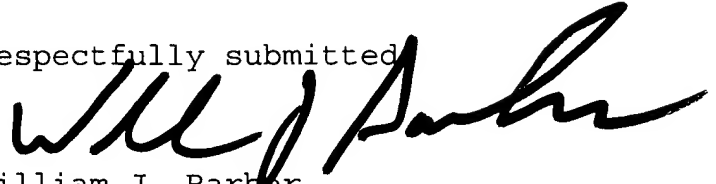
and a touch sensitive overlay in front of it based on the proposed combination of Colonna in view of Kim and further in view of Cornett. However, it is respectfully submitted that this so-called resulting device is not the claimed invention.

Finally, it is respectfully submitted that, similar to Colonna et al. and Kim, Cornett also does not teach or suggest a communications device featuring a moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide having a keyboard with preprinted key signs, where the function of the moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide changing based on the position thereof in relation to the housing or main body, in such a way that, when the touch sensitive slide is in a closed position in relation to the main body, the moveable housing element or touch sensitive slide operating in a keyboard mode with the force position or touch sensitive slide signal containing information about the preprinted key signs contacted by the user, as claimed herein.

Conclusion

Reconsideration and early allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William J. Barber', written over the typed name.

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